Dependence of Agriculture on Monsoon

†4306. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI :
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN'

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether dependence of agricultural land on monsoon rains in country has shown down-ward trend;

(b) if so, the details of the respective areas of agricultural lands which were dependent over monsoon rains during the beginning and the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the areas of agricultural land of the country likely to remain dependent over monsoon rains by the end of the Tenth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) An area of 87.76 million hectares was dependent on monsoon rains at the beginning of IX Plan. Based on the information received from Ministry of Water Resources, the target for creation of irrigation potential during IX Plan is 17.05 million hectares. It is envisaged that additional irrigation potential of about 20.00 million hectares will be created in the next 15 years. To the extent the irrigation targets are achieved, the dependence of agricultural lands on monsoon rains will decrease.

Increase in Agricultural Land

†4307. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI :
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN'

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any evaluation with regard to increase in the present area of agricultural land in the country for cultivation;

(b) if so, the area of agricultural land likely to increase in each State; and

(c) the percentage of agricultural land in each State against its total land ?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.